



Elena Jacobs Polanco is a member of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. She graduated May 29, 2015, from Triad Math and Science Academy in Greensboro, NC with a final GPA of 4.5. Elena has been a member of the National Honor Society. She is a Magna Cum Laude award recipient and has been accepted at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Elena was also named NC United Tribe's Outstanding Student of the year for 2014-2015. She was recently awarded the Gates Millennium Scholarship, which covers her full tuition for all four years!

In addition, Ms. Polanco is the current Jr. Miss Guilford Native American Association (2013-2015). She is also the current Guilford County representative for the North Carolina Native American Youth Organization and will attend the NCNAYO conference in June. She has participated and won awards in several writing contests.

Other accomplishments, Ms. Polanco was also chosen to participate at the 2014 Native American AIDS Awareness Training Conference for high school students in Denver, Colorado. She is teaching the local Native Youth an AIDS Awareness class.

Ms. Polanco is scheduled to attend the National UNITY Conference in Washington DC. She is slated to attend the White House Tribal Youth Gathering in July 2015.